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April 23, 2009

The Honorable Frank Wolf
241 Cannon Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Wolf:

On behalf of Fairfax County, Virginia, I am writing to you in support of the County's funding requests for the new surface transportation authorization legislation. The County is seeking federal assistance for several priority projects which will significantly reduce traffic congestion and vehicle emissions, improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the regional public transportation systems, help mitigate the transportation impacts of the Base Relocation and Closure (BRAC) Commission recommendations planned for Fort Belvoir, and help to improve the economic conditions in the region.

In particular, I would like to express the County's support for the Route 7 widening project from Reston Avenue to Reston Parkway. Below is a brief synopsis of the project:

Description:

Widen Route 7 from four to six lanes in Fairfax County from Reston Avenue to Reston Parkway. This project will include pedestrian facilities on both sides of the roadway. When completed, this project will tie into additional roadway improvements planned and funded from Rolling Holly Drive to Reston Avenue.

Funding Request:

\$8,000,000 (80 percent of the total project cost of \$10,000,000) from reauthorization highway funds.

Public Participation:

If funded, Fairfax County will work with the Virginia Department of Transportation to schedule and hold all public meetings required to implement the project.

The Washington, DC, metropolitan region is consistently ranked among the most congested areas of the nation. The impact of this congestion has national significance and highlights the need for improved transportation infrastructure serving the nation's capital. These projects are vital to improving the existing severe traffic congestion in the area and to prevent ultimate gridlock in the County's transportation network.

We thank you for your consideration of these critical funding requests for Fairfax County. If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Ichter, Director, Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) at 703-877-5695.

Sincerely,

Sharon Bulova
Chairman, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

Congressman Wolf

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cc: Members, Board of Supervisors

Anthony H. Griffin, County Executive

Katharine D. Ichter, Director, FCDOT

Sue Mittereder, Fairfax County Legislative Director, Office of the County Executive

Claudia Arko, Legislative Liaison, Office of the County Executive

Tom Biesiadny, Chief, Coordination and Funding Division, FCDOT

Jay Guy, FCDOT